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**Newsletter**

**Number 05**

**7 March 2014**



**Website** [www.matarau.school.nz](http://www.matarau.school.nz)

**Phone / Fax** (09) 433 5823 **Email** – [admin@matarau.school.nz](mailto:admin@matarau.school.nz)

**Thanks**

.. to those who have signed up to the middle school camp.  
.. to those parents who helped with the year 7 and 8 rock wall trip this week.

**People of the week**

.. those parents who have done their very best to stick to our traffic management plan .. there will be three concurrent projects soon and so things will get busier.  
.. Congratulations to our Kamo Swim Club swimmers who attended Northland Rising Stars Swimming last weekend: Abbey - 2 x pb, one of them being 7 secs), Caleb - 6 pb, making 5 finals & receiving 1 x bronze medal, 4 finalists ribbons, Emma - 1 pb of 3 secs, Tegan - 2 pb, one being 8 secs  
... Isabell ... see the end of the newsletter

**Term Events**

Please pencil the following dates into your calendar (a few are tentative).  
We will advise of further dates as these come to hand.

|           |   |
|-----------|---|
| 10 Mar    | Zone Swimming Sports at Kokopu School                     |
| 11 Mar    | Team Triathlon Event (more to follow)                     |
| 18-21 Mar | Year 5/6 camp at Russell                                  |
| 19 Mar    | Year 7/8 Tennis Doubles Tournament                        |
| 20-21 Mar | Junior marine snorkel at Whangarei Harbour Marine Reserve |
| 25 Mar    | Kids Lit Quiz   |
| 28 March  | Year 7 and 8 triathlon (Kai iwi Lakes)                    |
| 29 Mar    | Representation at ANZAC Field of Remembrance              |
| 7-9 Apr   | Trikids programme   |
| 16 Apr    | 2014 Youth Summit   |
| 17 April  | Final day for term 1 ( 5 May - Commencement of term 2)    |

**Some reminders from last week**

.. questions in the run up to the year 5 and 6 camp to Mr Schuster please.  
.. please ensure children in support programmes complete allocated homework tasks  
.. ensure children more generally have a set time and place for assigned homework - around 3 to 4 sessions per week - each session of around 20 minutes duration.  
.. to let your child's teacher know asap if you do Not want your child to be assigned homework  
.. children are encouraged to have a drink bottle at school each day for their desk top .. water the preferred drink.  
.. to pay school contributions, event fees etc at your earliest convenience.  
.. due to the non-availability of our school pool recipients of 2014 swimming cups will be selected based on performances at the zone and interschool events  
.. if you did not manage to get along to this week's interviews teachers are highly available by appointment.

### **Construction work** ..

.. begun Monday on our hall and shortly on our new classroom and pool complex. Please adhere to the transport plan below .. we will monitor to see how things go and amend if necessary. Aim is to disperse congestion over several entry points. Thank you in anticipation for your co-operation.

1. If you live on Pipiwai Road (including off-roads) please use the bottom bus bay for drop off and pick up of students or (as a less preferred option) walk your children across the road to the entrance at the side of the school hall.
2. If you live on the Matarau Road, Otakairangi Road, Rushbrook Road, Swamp Road side (including off-roads) you may continue to use the upper carpark but with caution please.
3. Please reduce speed when in the vicinity of the school and keep a keen eye out for children and vehicles.
4. If you have an appointment or business at school and need to park your car on site, it might be a good idea (where you have the option) of scheduling your appointment / business outside of the busy drop off and pick up times.



### **After School Maths Labs**

Maths Labs started last week. Please remember ..

- .. that attendance at both labs (both Mondays and Thursdays) is imperative
- .. that children will be expected to do 3 maths Whizz labs FOR HOMEWORK for each week of the programme
- .. to advise the office if your child will not be in attendance
- .. to send an afternoon snack to school to be eaten between 3:00 and 3:40

### **Final camp Meeting (Years 5 and 6)**

We have our final camp meeting next Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> March at 7pm in the staffroom. The purpose of this meeting is to discuss the camp in detail and hand out parent helper booklets. There will be an opportunity to ask any questions about camp.

**We ask that all parents that are helping at camp during the week to attend this meeting.**

### **Toys at school**

As things can get broken or lost we generally do not encourage children to bring their toys to school. If they do want to bring toys to show their friends maybe these could be handed over to the teacher for safe keeping and collected at the end of the day.

### **Lunches**

Our students bring amazing (and very healthy) lunches to school. As you know we do supervise them to make sure they eat a good portion of what you have sent along. Having said this, we do not require children to finish every item in their lunchbox. If you have checked their lunchbox and would like them to eat a little more, just let us know and we will do our best. We try to ensure that packaged treats are left until last but this can be a bit of a mission sometimes.

### **School Contributions / Trips and Events Fee / Spelling Books / Maths Whizz Subs**

Please contact me to discuss alternative payment arrangements. You will find us accommodating and discreet.

### **Zone Swimming Sports - Kokopu School - 10 March**

Parents are asked to ensure that children attending this event bring their lunches, plenty to drink, sunhats (and sun safe clothing), sunblock, something warm to wear between races, and spending money at your discretion. Please ensure that children who travel by bus also return to school by bus - unless otherwise arranged with the attending teachers. If weather is doubtful on the morning please check our phone bulletin board for updates.



## Matarau School Hockey

Teams and Registration details coming soon...



## International Schools English and Maths Competitions

Consent forms for the above competitions were sent out this week. PLEASE LET THE OFFICE KNOW IF YOU DID NOT RECEIVE A FORM AND WOULD LIKE ONE.

## Our "little things matter" person (people) this week is (are) ...

... This week a boy from room 3 was sent to Mr T in acknowledgment of an especially good writing effort. On his return to class Isabell Attwood (aged 5) told him she was impressed with his work. Thank you Isabell for taking the time to make a classmate feel valued. What a great role model!

## Finally

Disagreements between students happen just as disagreements between siblings happen. Disagreements are a normal part of being socialised ... i.e. learning that when we share spaces with others there are inevitably trade-offs (or put another way, we may not always get exactly what we want). It is part of learning to see things another's way, learning to compromise, to accommodate different viewpoints and to give or take a little. This does not come naturally to most children (or even to many adults) ... it is something we learn. So ... If your child is having the occasional disagreement with other children here is our advice ..

.. give it time (sometimes issues that loom large today are gone in a day or three ... children can be incredibly adept at sorting some things out themselves)

.. if the situation is not improving ask your child to see their teacher

.. if they are reluctant to do this, give your child's teacher a call and we will help things along

.. know that your information will always be incomplete and that we can complete the picture

.. trust us because we are impartial (all children are of equal value to us) and we have huge experience in such matters. We monitor and stay interested.

Please remember ..

.. that parents must never step in to sort another person's child because of an assumed wrong to their child ... in some cases it is illegal to do this and it nearly always makes things worse.

.. The old sayings that "it takes two", "there are two sides to the story" etc endure because there is usually (although not always) some truth in them.

Most of all, remember that **occasional** disagreements happen ... this is how children develop character.

Perhaps we should celebrate the fact that disagreements happen because they can provide us with some of life's best lessons. (*Note : these comments do not address the issue of bullying .. this is different .. a few thoughts on that next week*).

Regards

Kevin Trewhella  
PRINCIPAL

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children, please support them



**Ray White Allens Kids' Triathlon** - Sun 23 Mar 2014 - If you would like to co-ordinate a Matarau School team please contact the office for details.

## Community Notices

**Ruatangata Junior Hockey Club** - *Kwik Sticks (school yrs 7& 8)* - Rally day March 9<sup>th</sup> at 9am on the Real Deal Tyre Turf at Kensington Turf. Come ready to play. First practice will be on Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> March at the Kensington Turf 4 to 5 pm. If you have not heard what team you are in before then you will be advised at the practice.

**Kiwisticks, Ministicks & Funsticks (school yrs 1 to 6)** - If you wish to play this year please register by contacting Bex or Debbie (details at end of newsletter) by 9<sup>th</sup> March 2014, Bex Telfer, Email: [bexstainton@gmail.com](mailto:bexstainton@gmail.com), Ph: 4376380, Cell: 0212266155 or Debbie Attwood, Email: [funder@xtra.co.nz](mailto:funder@xtra.co.nz)



**Northland Golf Club - First Tee Programme** - Fun introduction to golf for children .. incorporates values like honesty, integrity, sportsmanship etc Goal is to provide a positive golfing experience. Cost \$80 for 9 weeks. Limited spaces. If interested contact Bronnie on 0274 713 225 ([bronnies@golfnorthland.co.nz](mailto:bronnies@golfnorthland.co.nz)) or pick up entry forms from our school office.

**Kamo Soccer Club** is now taking registrations for the 2014 season. You can either enrol directly through our Kamo Soccer Club website/homepage, or phone Jeremy Hay on 0275833323.

**Wanted to Rent** - 3-4brm house in Kamo/3 Mile Bush Rd, Matarau, Ruatangata

**Wanted to Rent** - 4brm house in Kamo/Kensington or nearby areas. Phone Lisa 4335092.

**Flatmate Wanted** - Lovely front room to rent, Hikurangi (opp Waro Rocks) \$80/wk (includes power & garage), no pets and no smoking. Phone Glenis 0220337812.

**Tidy Kiwi Property Care** - Lawns, Hedges, Trees, Bark, Gardens, Wet & Forget for house, Waterblasting, Weed spraying. Phone Craig Walker, 09 4335770 or 021426795.

**Personalised Lunchboxes** - Labels now reduced to \$10 for February only. See our display in the office foyer, email us on [etcsigns@gmail.com](mailto:etcsigns@gmail.com) or check out our Facebook page Etcetera - Signs by Design.

**Turbo Touch Afterschool Competition** - Kensington Park, Tue 11<sup>th</sup> Mar - Tue 15<sup>th</sup> Apr, Yrs 3-8, \$30.00pp or \$210 per team. For further info contact Paul Hope 021951925 or email [paul@kidsinaction.co.nz](mailto:paul@kidsinaction.co.nz)

**Free Parenting Programme** - "Sowing the Seeds" Being the parent you want to be - and loving it! Helping your child regulate their emotions, How to get your child to listen to you, Listening and Encouraging, Problem Solving, Share your experiences and get support from other parents, Thursday mornings: Starting 27<sup>th</sup> Feb - 3<sup>rd</sup> April 2014, 9.30am-12.00 noon, Jigsaw North, 25 Otaika Rd, Whangarei. To register contact Jigsaw North 4388852



Ethan and Kyle Hanlon were invested into the Cubs on Monday night at the Kamo Scout hall